conducted by the press that 3 out of every 5 voters favour choosing India's Chief Executive in a Direct election to ensure better control and performance and that Chief Executive of the States also to be elected in the same manner; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Voting rights

30. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the question of granting voting rights to those who have attained the age of 18 years has been under the consideration of the Government; and

(b) if so, for how long and what are the details of the steps so far taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b) The question of reducing the voting age to 18 years has been under consideration for over a decade. After taking into account all the aspects of the matter, Government have come to the conclusion that it is not practicable or advantageous to lower the voting age for some time. However, this matter is also likely to be discussed with the political parties as part of the general proposals for electoral reforms.

Vacancies of Judges in High Courts

31. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) how many vacancies of Judges are required to be filled up at present indicating the names of the High Courts and the date on which each of these vacancies arose; and

(b) how many posts of additional Judges were created during the last two years and in which High Court?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) Statement I showing the position is attached (*See* below).

(b) Statement II showing the position is attached. (*See* below).

Statement I

As on 1-4-1987

S. No.	Name of the High Court	Vacancies of Judges		Date from which vacancies in Cols. 3
		Permanent	Additional	
1	2	3	4	5
1	Allahabad	5	6	15-10-1984
				15-10-1984
				15-10-1984
				15-10-1984
				15-10-1984
				7-02-1985